

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

District Facility Plans: Fayette, Lincoln, Mercer, Muhlenberg, and Powell Counties and Walton Verona Independent

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 157.420 (4), KRS 157.622, KRS 157.620, 702 KAR 4:180

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed District Facility Plans (DFP) for the above listed Kentucky school districts?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. In accordance with 702 KAR 4:180, each district must develop a local DFP at the completion of a four (4) year cycle or at the completion of an eight (8) year cycle (maximum) if the district applies for and is granted a waiver. This process provides a District Facility Plan that contains an assessment of the school district's attributes and operations including the district profile, demographic information, facility conditions, and finances (cost of delivery of services).

Local school districts are required to select a Local Planning Committee (LPC) to develop a District Facility Plan (DFP) outlining capital construction priorities.

The LPC, by virtue of its makeup, encourages both community involvement and diversity of ideas. The LPC recommends a DFP to the local board. The DFP submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is the final decision of the local board of education.

Information reviewed in developing the DFP provides the LPC with a comprehensive view of the program and facility needs required to provide an equitable educational opportunity. KDE staff presents the process to be undertaken by the district in an orientation session. Information for review is then developed by the LPC and consultants.

Each proposed DFP was recommended by the LPC and approved by the local board of education. KDE staff certifies that the plans presented are in accordance with 702 KAR 4:180 and with the appropriate steps as follows: (1) LPC selection process documented; (2) proposed district facility plan reviewed for educational programs and curriculum, demographics, facility evaluations, adequacy of financial plan, and adequacy of square footage; (3) public forum notified through news media; (4) local board public hearing conducted; (5) local public hearing conducted with appointed hearing officer; and (6) plan submitted for KBE approval.

We have also reviewed the non-resident agreements and the number of "out of district" students

in each school district affected. This information is attached.

Staff Recommendation(s) and Rationale:

Staff recommends that the KBE approve the proposed District Facility Plans for Fayette, Lincoln, Mercer, Muhlenberg, and Powell Counties and Walton Verona Independent. These plans meet all regulatory requirements and the correct procedures were followed.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

In Standard 4 of the Standards and Indicators for School Improvement it is noted that the school's physical environment has an impact on student achievement. Research also indicates that better facilities enhance equity (equal opportunities for all students), attitudes and retention of staff, and parental involvement.

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Deputy Commissioner

Interim Commissioner of Education

Date:

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